

## REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

By this amendment, claims 1-7 and 10-16 are amended. Claims 8 and 9 are canceled. Claims 17 and 18 are added. Accordingly, claims 1-7 and 10-18 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 7 are independent.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants thank the Examiner for kindly indicating that claims 7, 9, and 14-16 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 8 depended from claim 1, and claim 9 depended from claim 8. Claim 7 depended from claim 6, which depended from claim 4, which depended from claim 3, which depended from claim 1. In view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter and to place the application in condition for allowance, claim 1 has been amended to include features from claim 8 and claim 9, and claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form to include the features from claims 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Claims 1-7 and 10-16 have been amended to further conform them to U.S. practice and to address the Examiner's objection to claim 7.

In accordance with the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter, independent claims 1 and 7 are allowable. Claims 2-6 and 10-17 are allowable by virtue of their dependency from allowable claims 1 and 7 and on their own merits.

**Conclusion**

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of present application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

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By:

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